

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13
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R 171635Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4134
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 5326

E O 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR GE GW PGOV
SUBJ: FRG REPLY TO GDR AIDE MEMOIRE

REF: BONN 02078

1. FRG DEPUTY PERMREP BRAUTIGAM INFORMED CHARGE THAT FRG REPLY TO GDR AIDE MEMOIRE IS READY AND WAITING CLEARANCE IN THE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE. BRAUTIGAM SAID THEY HOPED IT WOULD BE READY FOR DELIVERY FEBRUARY 18 OR EARLY IN THE FOLLOWING WEEK. ACCORDING TO BRAUTIGAM, THE FRG REPLY WILL REJECT ALL GDR CONTENTIONS ABOUT ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES BY THE PERMREP AND THAT IT WILL NOT ALTER ITS MANNER OF DEALING WITH EAST GERMAN VISITORS.

2. WHILE THIS WILL NOT GIVE THE GDR MUCH REASON TO THINK THAT ANY DIALOGUE IS POSSIBLE, BRAUTIGAM WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE HOPED THE GDR WOULD AT LEAST TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN TO THE FRG WHAT IS PROBMES WERE AND WHY
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IT MAY BE COMPELLED TO TAKE CERTAIN STEPS ON THE EMIGRATION QUESTION. ALTHOUGH BRAUTIGAM WAS NOT SPECIFIC, HE LEFT THE IMPRESSION THAT AT LEAST THE PERMREP IS INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING A DIALOGUE WITH THE EAST GERMANS IN AN EFFORT TO AVOID FURTHER STAGNATION IN RELATIONS. HE ADDED HE HOPED THE PERMREP WOULD BE RECEIVING INSTRUCTIONS FROM BONN TO ENTER INTO

SUCH A DIALOGUE, BUT DID NOT EXPRESS MUCH OPTIMISM ABOUT THE LIKELIHOOD OF RECEIVING SUCH INSTRUCTION IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

3. BRAUTIGAM NOTED THAT APPROX 10 DAYS AGO THE EAST GERMANS HAD TAKEN ANOTHER STEP IN CURTAILING THE ROLE OF THE PERMREP HERE. IN CONNECTION WITH APPLICATIONS FROM WEST GERMANS AS WELL AS EAST GERMANS TO MAKE VISITS FOR URGENT FAMILY MATTERS, BRAUTIGAM NOTED IT HAD BEEN THE NORMAL PRACTICE FOR THE PERREP TO MAKE "INTERVENTIONS" WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON BEHALF OF WEST GERMANS WHO HAD BEEN DENIED PERMISSION TO ENTER THE GDR AS WELL AS FOR EAST GERMANS WHO HAD BEEN DENIED PERMISSION TO TRAVEL TO WEST GERMANY. ABOUT 10 DAYS AGO, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY REFUSED TO ACCEPT PERMREP INTERVENTIONS ON BEHALF OF EAST GERMANS WHO WERE SEEKING TO GO TO WEST GERMANY; AT THE SAME TIME THE FOREIGN MINISTRY CONTINUES TO ACCEPT INTERVENTIONS ON BEHALF OF WEST GERMANS WHO ARE REAPPLYING TO VISIT THE GDR. BRAUTIGAM DID ACKNOWLEDGE THIS GDR ACTION WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH ITS CONTENTION THAT THE PERMREP CANNOT INTERVENE FOR OR ASSIST GDR CITIZENS IN MATTERS RELATING TO TRAVEL OR EMIGRATION TO THE FRG. HE INDICATED THE PERMREP PLANNED TO TAKE UP THIS MATTER WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY BUT GAVE NO INDICATION WHEN OR IN WHAT FORM THIS WOULD TAKE PLACE.POLANSKY

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